GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:106
ANSWERED ON:18.11.2002
PRODUCTION OF HERBS
CHINMAYANAND;RAMJI LAL SUMAN;SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA;Y.G. MAHAJAN

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of land on which herbs are grown in the country at present;

(b) the estimated value of these herbs;

(c) whether the possibility of increasing the production of herbs in the country has been explored;

(d) if so, the areas identified where herbs can be grown to derive maximum benefit therefrom location wise and, State-wise;

(e) whether the Government propose to provide special facilities to the farmers to encourage cultivation of herbal crops; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a)&(b): No statistics is available on the total area of land on which herbs are grown in the country and the value thereof. However, the Task Force on Conservation & Sustainable use of Medicinal Plants constituted by thePlanning Commission has indicated that the earnings from exports of medicinal plants could be raised from the level of Rs.446.3 crores in March 2000 to the tune of Rs.3000.00 crores by 2005 and Rs.10,000 crores by 2010.

(c)&(d): The Task Force has reported that about 70 percent of Indian medicinal plants are found in the tropical areas mostly in various forest types spread across the Western and Eastern Ghats, the Vindhyas, Chotta Nagpurplateau, Aravalis and Himalayas. Although no study has been conducted to determine the locations suitable for growing herbs in different States, the Government has identified 32 medicinal plants for development in different parts of the country.A list indicating the name of the medicinal plants is given in the statement at Annexure.

(e)&(f): The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation in the Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a CentrallySponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture Supplementation/Complementation of Stateefforts through Work Plans under which the State Governments can take up programs as per the felt needs and rquirement. The Scheme include the components of development of Medicinal & Aromatic plants by creating herbal gardens, nursery attached to herbal gardens, besides providing assistance to the farmers for taking up cultivation of these plants. With a view to provide focused attention for the development of medicinal plants a National MedicinalPlants Board (NMPB) has been constituted under the Ministry of Health and Family WelfareBesides, State Level Medicinal Plants Board have been constituted in various States.The National Medicinal Plants Board is alsoimplementing schemes for the development of medicinal plants.

Annexure

LIST OF PRIORITISED 32 MDICINAL PLANTS

Sl.No.	COMMON NAME	BOTANICAL NAME
1.	Amla	Emblica officinalis Gaertn
2.	Ashok	Saraca asoca (Roxb) de Wilde
3.	Ashwagandha	Withania somnifera (Linn.) Dunal
4.	Atees	Aconitum hetrophyllum Wall. Ex Royle
5.	Bael	Aegle marmlos (Linn) Corr.
6,	Bhume amlaki	Phyllanthus amarus Schum & Thonn.

7 Brahmi Bacopa monnieri (L.) Pnnell

8. Chandan Santalum album Linn.

9. Chirata Swertia chirata Buch-Ham.
10. Giloe Tinospora Cordifolia Miers.
11. Gudmar Gymnema sylvstre R.Br.
12. Guggal Commiphora wightii (Am.) Bhandari
13. Isabgol Plantago ovata Forsk.
14. Jatamansi Nardostachys jatamansi DC,
15. Kalihari Gloriosa superba Linn.
16. Kalmegh Andrographis paniculata Wall. X Nees
17. Kesar (Saffron) Crocus sativus Linn.
18. Kokum Garcinia indica Chois.
19. Kuth Saussurea costus C.B. Clarke (S.lappa)
20. Kutki Picrorhiza kurroa Benth ex Royle
21. Makoy Solanum nigrum Linn.
22. Mulethi Glycyrrhiza glabra Linn.
23. Musali Safaid Chlorophytum arundinaceum Baker (C. borivillianum)
24. Pashan Bheda (Coleus) Coleus barbatus Benth.
25. Pippal Piprlongum Linn.
26. Rasaut (Daruhaldi) Berberis aristata DC.
27. Sarpgandha Rauwolfia serpntina Benth, ex Kurz
28. Senna Cassia angustifolia Vahl.
29. Shatavari Asparagus racmosus Willd.
30. Tulsi Ocimum sanctum Linn.
31. Vai Vidang Embelia ribes Burm.f.
32 Vatsnabh Aconitum ferox Wall.